

be available to all members of the Committee.

Subcommittee Staff

(b) From funds made available for the appointment of staff, the Chair of the Committee shall, pursuant to clause 6(d) of rule X of the Rules of the House, ensure that sufficient staff is made available so that each subcommittee can carry out its responsibilities under the rules of the Committee and that the minority party is treated fairly in the appointment of such staff.

Compensation of Staff

(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Chair shall fix the compensation of all professional and other staff of the Committee.

(2) The ranking minority member shall fix the compensation of all professional and other staff provided to the minority party members of the Committee.

RULE 7

BUDGET AND TRAVEL

Budget

(a)(1) The Chair, in consultation with other members of the Committee, shall prepare for each Congress a budget providing amounts for staff, necessary travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and its subcommittees.

(2) From the amount provided to the Committee in the primary expense resolution adopted by the House of Representatives, the Chair, after consultation with the ranking minority member, shall designate an amount to be under the direction of the ranking minority member for the compensation of the minority staff, travel expenses of minority members and staff, and minority office expenses. All expenses of minority members and staff shall be paid for out of the amount so set aside.

Travel

(b)(1) The Chair may authorize travel for any member and any staff member of the Committee in connection with activities or subject matters under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is granted, there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing the following:

(A) The purpose of the travel.

(B) The dates during which the travel is to occur.

(C) The names of the States or countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each.

(D) The names of members and staff of the Committee for whom the authorization is sought.

(2) Members and staff of the Committee shall make a written report to the Chair on any travel they have conducted under this subsection, including a description of their itinerary, expenses, and activities, and of pertinent information gained as a result of such travel.

(3) Members and staff of the Committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, and regulations of the House and of the Committee on House Administration.

RULE 8

COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

Records

(a)(1) There shall be a transcript made of each regular meeting and hearing of the Committee, and the transcript may be printed if the Chair decides it is appropriate or if a majority of the members of the Committee requests such printing. Any such transcripts shall be a substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections au-

thorized by the person making the remarks. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require that all such transcripts be subject to correction and publication.

(2) The Committee shall keep a record of all actions of the Committee and of its subcommittees. The record shall contain all information required by clause 2(e)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House and shall be available for public inspection at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee.

(3) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Chair, shall be the property of the House, and all Members of the House shall have access thereto as provided in clause 2(e)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(4) The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chair shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on written request of any member of the Committee.

Committee Publications on the Internet

(b) To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

THE SPENDULOUS BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to talk about the spendulous bill that is coming before the House once again.

If you add up all of the money it's going to cost us in this spendulous bill, it's going to total \$9.7 trillion. Now, I had to put it on two poster boards here, Mr. Speaker, so we could see how long a number that is. That includes, of course, the big bailout bills that were passed, and, of course, the debt on the spendulous bill and future debt that we're going to require because of agreements to provide aid in this new bill.

Now, just to give you—I mean, nobody understands what \$9.7 trillion means. So let me try to explain it in terms maybe we can understand.

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If you take all the home mortgages in the United States, every one of them, this will pay off 90 percent of them by this bill that we're getting ready to pass. It's also enough to give every person on the face of the earth \$1,500, every one of them, no matter where they are. That's how much \$9.7 trillion is. That means everybody could get some money from the United States on this bill.

Putting it another way, if you add up the cost of the wars in Afghanistan and the war in Iraq, this is 13 times that amount. And it's been figured that if you add up in current 2009 dollars the cost of all the wars that the United

States has fought in, the Revolutionary War, the War Between the States, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Iraqi wars and the Afghanistan wars, it still is less than \$9.7 trillion. If you add up the wars and if you then figure out how much it cost us in 2009 dollars for the Louisiana Purchase, the Gadsden Purchase, and the whole State of Alaska, that's still less than \$9.7 trillion.

So we're talking about real money here, Mr. Speaker, on this so-called "spendulous" bill that the House will get to vote on again at the end of this week.

This House stimulus bill, as it is properly called, is bigger than 168 of 180 national economies that are measured by the World Bank. Let me say that again. If you take 180 countries and their national economy, this bill is bigger than 168 of them.

So we're talking about money that, first of all, probably will not even work to stimulate the economy. We've been told that spending equals stimulus. That is just not true. Government spending on government programs doesn't mean that the economy is going to be better. All it means is the government, our government, is going to get bigger.

Many economists argue that there's no historical precedent for a stimulus spending driven economy, and they base that on history. You see, we've done this stimulus package before. Since 1948, there have been eight stimulus packages that have come to the House of Representatives, that have passed, and history has shown none of those really stimulated the economy at all. They had no effect on the economy, but we don't pay any attention to history. We just think we can make it happen by spending a lot of government money.

And of course, we're not convinced, those of us who don't want to spend this kind of money, that it will stimulate the economy, and besides all that, we don't have the money, Mr. Speaker. We're just flat broke. We've got to borrow the money. We've got to borrow it from somebody else in the world like China and pay interest to China, of all countries, so that we can take this money from Americans yet to be born and give it to different interest groups in the United States, all under the pretext of we're going to stimulate the economy. It doesn't make much sense to me to be spending this kind of money, which is real money, on this so-called fake stimulus package.

Maybe we should not spend any money at all. Maybe we should think about letting Americans, who pay taxes, and do report their taxes to the IRS, let them keep more of their money, an across-the-board tax cut for everybody that pays taxes. They would have more of their own money to begin with. Government wouldn't be taking it from them and deciding what to do with it. Let them keep their own money, and they can spend it how they

see fit. And maybe they will stimulate the economy by the way they choose to spend it rather than wasteful spending by the Federal Government, the government growing bigger, the government getting more involved in everything from the banking industry to the how-to-make-a-Federal car, and all of these other programs where we're getting the nationalization of this.

It's not the answer, Mr. Speaker, and that's just the way it is.

WE CAN'T HAVE GUNS AND BUTTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, last night I attended the 10th anniversary celebration of Safe House in San Francisco. Safe House is a unique service. It provides services and support to homeless women and to women who are leaving prostitution. Safe House empowers these women to turn their lives around, and, Mr. Speaker, they do.

The Reverend Glenda Hope, one of the founders of Safe House, also helped establish San Francisco Network Ministries which helps the poorest of the poor on the streets of San Francisco. She has been a beacon of hope for decades, helping many people who have been forgotten and discarded by society so that they could find their way back.

I have been proud to call Glenda Hope my close friend, my inspiration, and my hero for over 40 years. Her commitment to human dignity and to social justice is an example for all of us.

Reverend Hope has also been a tireless champion of peace. She refused to remain silent about the previous administration's disastrous policies in Iraq and demanded that Congress cut off funding for the occupation. To Glenda, Iraq isn't something you see on television because Glenda sees the tragic results of the fighting with her own eyes on the streets of San Francisco. She sees veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome, homelessness, and mental illness caused by combat. When the so-called "surge" began in 2007, Glenda warned that there will be a "surge of additional vets onto our streets with similar afflictions, and the longer we stay in Iraq the more there will be."

Mr. Speaker, we now know that over 300,000 veterans of the Iraq War are suffering from PTSD. Many veterans across the country are homeless, jobless, and suffering from depression and other mental problems. Many are dealing with family problems caused by their long and frequent deployments away from home. In addition, Mr. Speaker, many others have been caught up in the foreclosure crisis, and just the other day, we received the tragic news that the suicide rate among soldiers in 2008 was the highest in nearly 30 years.

The human cost of war is the greatest cost of all, and our country has a moral obligation to provide the very best care to our veterans. But the financial costs should also concern us, especially in these hard times.

We continue to spend over \$12 billion a month to keep our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. We'll also be spending countless billions of dollars to provide help for our veterans, many of whom will require extensive health care for decades to come.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation cannot afford to fight two wars at a time when our economy is on the brink of collapse. We tried to have guns and butter back in the Vietnam War. It didn't work and it won't work now.

It is obvious that we're overextended. That's why I've called for the redeployment of our troops out of Iraq and Afghanistan and for a bold, aggressive recovery plan to save our economy here at home.

On January 20, Mr. Speaker, I sent a letter to our brand new President Obama calling for a worldwide ceasefire, or a timeout, from war. This would allow us to work with the world community to use diplomacy, reconciliation, and humanitarian assistance to resolve disputes and to fight terrorism.

This approach would be especially effective in Afghanistan where war has never worked. As a matter of fact, war hasn't worked for any invader of Afghanistan down through history. Building schools, building hospitals, building roads is the best way to fight the Taliban.

Mr. Speaker, it's time to rebuild our country and rethink our foreign policy. The old ways have failed, and we must take bold, new action. It means an economic recovery package big enough to do the job and a new commitment to peace around the world. It means we should follow the example of Reverend Glenda Hope because she would invest in the neediest among us, and that would be the way to get started in this world of ours.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. INGLIS. Mr. Speaker, I understand that the word "crisis" in Chinese is written with two characters. The first means danger and the second means opportunity.

It occurs to me that that's really where we are in our country today when it comes to energy. We've got

both a danger and an opportunity. Of course, this may sound a little bit dated because, you know, 6 months, 8 months ago on this House floor we were talking about prices of gasoline at \$4 a gallon or something. Now, gas at \$1.60 a gallon is a sleeper cell waiting to detonate, and it will eventually detonate. So we get this enormous danger.

We saw the danger this summer. It became real and present, and we saw what happened when gas hit \$4 a gallon. Now, it's going to get a little bit of a sleeper cell action going on here where it's \$1.50, \$1.60, \$1.70. But what we've got there is a huge danger looming for us in the future.

We've also got, though, this incredible opportunity. In this midst of this economic downturn, we're looking for jobs. We're looking for a way to create productivity for the future and to get beyond just stimulus and into long-term growth.

So, in that regard, I had an opportunity to visit with the wind unit of General Electric Company in Greenville, South Carolina, recently, and they told me that 1 percent of the world's electricity is made from the wind. If it goes to 2 percent, just from 1 percent to 2 percent of the world's electricity coming from wind, it's \$100 billion in sales, \$100 billion. That's an opportunity.

So we've got this danger in our precarious position with energy, dependent on foreign Nations, some of them that really don't like us very much. But we have also got this tremendous opportunity, which is the job creation opportunity by these fuels of the future.

So the question is why don't we move quickly to those fuels of the future, and here's where I think folks from my side of the aisle can really add to this discussion because, you know, one of the strengths of Republicans is understanding free enterprise, how to make a profit, how to make things work, how to create things, build things, grow things, make things work. That's our strength.

And so when you're thinking about wind, for example, why isn't wind used more? Why isn't nuclear used more? Well, the answer is the price signals aren't there. It isn't cost-effective in a lot of cases to pursue those new technologies. What's cheaper? Well, the things we know: burn coal, burn natural gas, burn oil, gasoline. Those things are the incumbent technologies that have a market distortion going on. And the market distortion, which is something again that we Republicans understand very well, we understand about markets, the market distortion we've got going on is a free good in the air. That means I can belch and burn on my property 24/7 without any accountability for what it does on somebody else's property when it comes to greenhouse gas emissions.

And so if you start attaching that accountability and saying to me, INGLIS, listen, you're going to have to keep